



DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

**Description of proposal:**

The Loomis NRCA Management Plan fulfills requirements outlined in the Loomis Forest Settlement Agreement and First Memorandum of Clarification, and the NRCA Act (RCW 79.71). The site includes two parcels, the north block (approximately 14,000 acres) and the south block (approximately 10,700 acres), together they include approximately 24,700 acres. The management plan was developed to coordinate conservation of the property's natural ecological values with traditional agricultural management (grazing) and public use activities (hiking, recreational equestrian use, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snow-shoeing and hunting).

The proposal also incorporates modifications to the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) 1996 Lynx Habitat Management Plan cited in the USFWS lynx take avoidance letter (Martin, April 26, 2002) and the 2002 Modified Lynx Habitat Plan and Mitigated DNS issued May 8, 2002.

In addition, this proposal is designed to be used in conjunction with the Loomis State Forest Landscape Plan, Permit Range Management Plans, Modified Lynx Habitat Management Plan, Chopaka NAP Management Plan and the Federal Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan.

**Proponent:** Natural Areas Program, Department of Natural Resources

**Location of proposal, including street address, if any:** The Loomis NRCA is part of the Loomis State Forest located west of Tonasket in Okanogan County, Washington. The north block is located in Township 40 North, Range 24 East, W.M. The south block is located in Townships 37 and 38 North, Ranges 23 and 24 East, W.M.

**Lead agency:** Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

☒ This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2). Comments must be submitted between January 24, 2003 and February 28, 2003. The department plans to have a public meeting February 6, 2003 if you wish to give oral comments at that time a written statement of your comments should also be submitted.

**Responsible official:** JOHN X. VIADA

**Position/title:** Northeast Region Manager

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Date. 1-17-03 Signature John X Viada

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